Restoration of CGHS Facilities to the Pensioners

957. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the facilities of the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) being enjoyed by the pensioners of Ammunition Factory, Kirkee, H. E. Factory, Kirkee, Ordnance Factory, Dehu Road and certain other installations at Pune till the end of 1981, have been discontinued;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to review the position and restore the facilities of the scheme to these pensioners?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (MISS KUMUD BEN M. JOSHI): (a) to (c) The facilities of CGHS were extended to the pensioners of the Ammunition Factory, Kirkee and Ordnance Factory at pune in October, 1981. However, as it was brought to the notice of the Government that the employees of Ordnance Factory and allied establishments are covered either under Factory Medical Regulations or under CS (MA) Rules and in view of the policy that such Government servants who are not covered under CGHS during their service period are not eligible for CGHS facilities after their retirement the facilities extended to the pensioners of the Ordnance Factory establishments were dis-continued since January, 1982.

Halt of trains at Kurduwadi junction

958. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the difficulties being experienced by about 22,000 to 25,000 pilgrims for the famous religious centre, Pandharpur, Maharashtra on the Narrow gauge line Latur-Miraj;

(b) whether Government have received suggestions to make 905 Up and 906 Dn Bangalore-Nizamuddin Express and 145 Dn and 146 Up Nav Jeewan Express, halt at Kurduwadi Junction in the Central Railways; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken thereon and what other alternative steps are being taken by Government to provide relief to the pilgrims?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) to (c) Stoppage of 905 Up/906 Dn Bangalore-Nizamuddin Express and 145 Dn/146 Up Nav Jeewan Express at Kurduwadi has been examined and not found justified as these are long distance trains running to vary tight schedule with very limited stoppages enroutes. However, Kurduwadi is served by 9 pairs of trains including 6 pairs of Mail/Express trains. The Narrow Gauge trains on Kurduwadi-Pandharpur/Latur section maintain important connections with these trains at Kurduwadi.

Homeopathic Doctors in Indian Railways

959. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Homeopathic doctors employed in the Indian Railways;

(b) whether there is a proposal to augment their strength; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) There are no Homopathic doctors in the Medical Department of Indian Railways.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Memorandum from interns Association of Midnapore Medical college

960. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of Health and Family Welfare has received a memorandum dated the 28th June, 1984 from Interns Association, Midnapore Homoeopathic Medical College and Hospital, Midnapore, West Bengal;

(b) if so, what are the salient features thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) Yes.

(b) The following points have been raised in the memorandum:—

(i) The Homoeopathic doctors especially the degree holder group are neglected in health services throughout the country. There is a suggestion that they be appointed in health services of Railways, Coal Mines and ESIC.

(ii) The pay scale and other privileges should be at par with that of the allopathic doctors.

(iii) Corruption in admission and teaching in homoeopathic institutions should be removed.

(iv) Post-graduate education in Homoeopathy.

(c) It is the policy of Government to develop the Indian System of Medicine & Homoeopathy in the country. The Joint Conference of the Central Council of Health & Central Council of Family Welfare in its meeting held on 9-11 July, 1984, recommended that big public sector undertakings of the Government of India and State Governments may take steps to provide institutional facilities for the treatment of their employees under ISM and homoeopathy System.

In pursuance of a resolution of the 4th Joint Conference of Central Council of Health & Central Council of Family Welfare, that states/U. Ts were advised that the existing disparities in the pay scales between Allopathy & ISM & Homoeopathy should be reduced and in course of time, removed.

As per resolution of the 9th Joint Conference of the Central Council of Health & Central Council of Family Welfare, it has been impressed on the States/U.Ts to check the mush-room growth of medical colleges of ISM & Homeopathy and to ensure their proper functioning. The 10th Joint Conference has reiterated this recommendation. As for post-graduate education in Homoeopathy no syllabus has so far been prescribed.

Canteens in Subordinate Offices of the Ministry of Railways

961. SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names and addresses of all the subordinate offices of the Ministry of Railways;

(b) whether all the above offices are running canteens; if so, the names of the canteens and also whether these are run on co-operative basis or departmentally;

(c) what wages and other facilities are provided to the canteen employees;